

IDAHO

Local litigation firms

Highly recommended

Hall Farley Oberrecht & Blanton

Hawley Troxell Ennis & Hawley

Holland & Hart

Stoel Rives

Recommended

Elam & Burke

Greener Burke Shoemaker

Perkins Coie

Local litigation stars

Steven Andersen

Holland & Hart

Complex Commercial Litigation

Tom Banducci

Banducci Woodard Schwartzman

Complex Commercial Litigation

Walter Bithell

Holland & Hart

Complex Commercial Litigation

Richard Boardman

Perkins Coie

Complex Commercial Litigation, Construction Litigation, Intellectual Property

Kelly Cameron

Perkins Coie

Complex Commercial Litigation, Employment Litigation, Products Liability

Merlyn Clark

Hawley Troxell Ennis & Hawley

Complex Civil Litigation

William Dryden

Elam & Burke

Complex Commercial Litigation, Construction Litigation, Environmental, Insurance

Donald Farley

Hall Farley Oberrecht & Blanton

Commercial Litigation, Insurance, Products Liability

Mark Geston

Stoel Rives

Complex Commercial Litigation, Products Liability, Professional Liability

Richard Greener

Greener Burke Shoemaker

Commercial Litigation, Professional Liability

James LaRue

Elam & Burke

Insurance, Products Liability

Craig Meadows

Hawley Troxell Ennis & Hawley

Complex Commercial Litigation, Insurance, Products Liability

Phil Oberrecht

Hall Farley Oberrecht & Blanton

Construction Litigation, Employment Litigation

Walter Sinclair

Stoel Rives

Complex Commercial Litigation

Future stars

Keely Duke

Hall Farley Oberrecht & Blanton

Teresa Hill

Stoel Rives



Idaho

Idaho's economy used to be driven by timber and mining, but it is no longer focused exclusively on these industries. Before the economic downturn, Idaho had been experiencing brisk economic growth, especially in the residential and commercial real estate market in and around Boise and Treasure Valley. Growth has slowed dramatically in recent months, and that has meant a trend towards more breach of contract disputes between owners and contractors, more adversarial proceedings, and of course more bankruptcy related litigation. Employment litigation is also on the rise.

Highly recommended firms

Hall Farley Oberrecht & Blanton

Hall Farley Oberrecht & Blanton has a reputable insurance defense practice, and its partners handle a large amount of medical malpractice and construction related litigation. The firm has represented insurance carriers and defended insureds, self insureds and third party administrators since its inception. The partners at the firm handle bad faith claims, and have represented companies that insure everything from professional, architectural and engineering malpractice to transportation, automobiles, employment, accountant, and governmental claims. **Phil Oberrecht** is known as a talented construction lawyer, and also handles hospital and labor and employment law. **Donald Farley** practices commercial litigation and insurance defense, with a focus on products liability and auto and truck liability claims. He has also tried cases in the aviation, premises liability, machine and equipment failure, fire and property damage arenas.

Hawley Troxell Ennis & Hawley

Hawley Troxell Ennis & Halwey is the largest general practice firm in Idaho. The firm has been adding new practice areas over the years, and has chosen to emphasize its work in intellectual property, information technology and renewable energy recently. The firm has offices in Boise, Pocatello, Hailey and Reno.

Craig Meadows serves as chairperson of the firm's litigation practice. He concentrates his practice in commercial and insurance litigation. His insurance work includes aviation, legal malpractice, bad faith litigation and subrogation issues.

Merlyn Clark is a litigator, arbitrator and mediator focusing on complex commercial litigation involving real property, contract law, and employment law.

Holland & Hart

Environmental litigation is a large component of the work in Holland & Hart's Boise office. The firm is representing the Idaho Transportation Department with respect to environmental challenges that could potentially derail the government's Sand Creek Biway project, which would reroute traffic

around the city of Boise. The firm has been successful in fending off these challenges, which included defending motions for preliminary injunctions and arguing against the EPA challenge to the selection process for the project's route. This challenge went up to the Ninth Circuit, which has stayed the case. A second challenge was filed in Washington federal court, and Holland & Hart successfully had the case removed to Idaho. The case challenged the Army Corps of Engineers' 404 permit; the firm's motion for summary judgment on behalf of the state was granted on this claim.

The firm is also handling a products liability case on behalf of 150 Idaho farmers whose crops were damaged by the application of Oust, a chemical manufactured by DuPont. DuPont is being sued along with the Bureau of Land Management. When the government sprayed the chemical on public lands, some of the chemical drifted over onto private land, damaging the farmer's crops. The plaintiffs are alleging defective labelling, defective product, and defective application of the product, as well as a failure to warn that the product should not be used in a state like Idaho where it is foreseeable that the winds will carry the chemical onto land where its application would be harmful.

Walter Bithell focuses on commercial and business litigation. He recently defended Nestle USA against claims of breach of contract, fraud, and breach of fiduciary duty filed in the District Court for the Southern District of Idaho. The claims arose out of the plaintiff's acquisition of Nestle's dehydrated potato distribution business. After months of discovery, the defense filed a claim for summary judgment and the case was eventually settled. **Steven Andersen** is another prominent member of the firm's litigation practice in Boise. He focuses on commercial litigation, intellectual property litigation, tort defense, insurance, professional liability, and products liability matters.

Stoel Rives

Stoel Rives has a team of 375 lawyers and locations all over the western U.S. "Stoel Rives is an excellent law firm, and **Walter Sinclair** is their leader" claims a competitor. Sinclair has acted as lead defense counsel in agricultural

products liability cases involving sprinkler systems, crop damage and wrongful death, and has represented DuPont in this field. He has also handled environmental cleanup matters and several insurance coverage cases for a regional insurance company.

Mark Geston focuses on legal malpractice, products liability, and complex commercial disputes. He has developed particular expertise in representing domestic and foreign manufacturers of civil and military aircraft. He has also served as lead trial counsel on construction litigation involving residential housing developments.

Recommended firms

Elam & Burke

Elam & Burke was founded in Idaho in 1928. The firm provides a wide range of legal services and aims to provide regional representation for its clients.

William Dryden's practice includes environmental litigation, commercial litigation, construction litigation, insurance defense work, and mediation. **James LaRue** is also a premier litigator at the firm, and focuses his practice on first party and third party insurance defense for various insurance companies around the state. He is also experienced in professional malpractice and products liability defense.

Greener Burke Shoemaker

Greener Burke Shoemaker bills itself as experienced at trial and comfortable in handling high stakes litigation. Clients include Idaho State Homebuilders Association, CBS Corporation, AutoZone, Inc., Farmers & Merchants State Bank, and Sun Life Insurance Company. The firm is one of the largest trial-focused firms in the Pacific Northwest.

Richard Greener has spent his past ten years in practice exclusively handling trial work. He handles all types of litigation, from securities to construction to environmental litigation to products liability. He also has a substantial experience with medical malpractice cases, and has represented physicians, long term care facilities, podiatrists and chiropractors.

Perkins Coie

The partners at the Boise office of Perkins Coie have handled products liability defense, environmental insurance coverage actions, and defense of class actions.

Richard Boardman focuses his practice on trial and appellate work, including commercial litigation, construction, and intellectual property litigation.

Kelly Cameron concentrates on complex commercial litigation, including unfair competition and trade secrets, employment litigation, products liability, telecommunications, and civil rights and constitutional law.